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SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

VIA: AIR
SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH

DISPATCH NO. MIL-A-5529

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TO : Chief, Foreign Division M
FROM : Chief of Station, Karlsruhe *c/f*
SUBJECT: GENERAL - Operational
SPECIFIC - Commitment Plan for POHL of GV C

DATE: 6 March 1951

Reference: MIL-A-5530

1. The persons concerned in subject plan are the following:

Josef KURT MERN
a. V-12041 leader of EV 8, whom GV C plans to use in the future as a field area specialist for the CSR. The cover name of V-12041 is Kurt MERN. He has been active for GV C since 15 November 1950. He worked formerly for CID Augsburg.

b. ULLI POHL (cover name), whose anticipated function is that of agent leader.

c. Hans MARTIN (cover name), planned source.

d. Jupp KUENIG (cover name), planned source.

e. Jugoslav POHL (cover name), planned source.

f. Josef KUENIG (cover name), planned courier.

2. GV C plans to send POHL into the CSR after he has completed his IS training, there to activate the sources who have already promised him their cooperation. The general target for this operation is OB on the Czech airforce. Specific targets are the following:

a. An airforce construction section.

b. An army research institute.

c. An airfield in the CSR.

3. Operational information given us about these persons is the following:

Dist: 2 - FDM
1 - COS
2 - File

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SECRET

-2-

Josef KURT MERK

a. ~~Sy-12041~~ is said in a POB staff memo of 28 February 1950 to have worked for CIC Augsburg and to have been dropped only because his sources were providing positive rather than CI reports. CIC Augsburg added the opinion that V-12041 is a very reliable person. Further developments are related in MGL-A's 1603/1837 (~~not-to-PBM~~), 4309 (the attachment to which provides a very full account of the military and Abwehr background of V-12041), and 4447 (~~not-to-PBM~~), which corrects the spelling of the true name of V-12041 to that shown in reference. The attachment to MGL-A-4309 receives some confirmation from the Primer reference (with the name spelled as in MGL-A-1603) and from ZIPPER's own file card on V-12041, which confirms that during the war he was the superior officer of the present leader of GV L and that he was regarded as the best man in AST Dijon.

b. POHL worked for what GV C terms "MIS Munich" from 1 November 1948 until 1 March 1950. In this work he was directed by V-12041. Until 1949 POHL was engaged in CI work within the U.S. Zone of Germany. From 1949 until March of 1950 he did positive work against the CSR on behalf of the same agency. This work was discontinued because MIS Munich had no further interest in running operations against the CSR, according to POHL.

(1) V-12041 considers POHL honest, open, and very intelligent. He has a good educational and home background, is trustworthy and well-balanced. He makes the impression of being clever, as he is, and he is quick to establish rapport with other persons. He shows decided presence of mind. He is a rather feminine character, however, somewhat thoughtless and characterized by a certain love of adventure.

(2) POHL speaks German, Polish, Czech, and Russian.

(3) He is a skilled draftsman.

(4) Once during May 1949, and once on a later date, POHL went into the CSR on behalf of his employing agency and there recruited all of the remaining persons in this operation.

c. Hans MARTIN is the brother-in-law of POHL and an engineer working for an airforce construction office. He joined the Communist Party in order to keep his job, but POHL considers him anti-communistic. POHL visited him in May 1949, at which time MARTIN promised to work for POHL. In fact, POHL states that MARTIN did furnish original documents on weapons fired by remote control and that this material was evaluated as "very good" by the U.S. office for which POHL worked.

(1) POHL terms MARTIN a quiet, open, and honest person, industrious and ambitious, and not given to drinking or chasing women.

(2) It is planned that MARTIN will deliver original documents to which he has official access by virtue of his position as an engineer with the above-mentioned office.

SECRET

SECRET

-3-

d. KOENIG, who is a lieutenant and test pilot, has joined the Communist Party in order to retain this position. He speaks Czech, some Russian, and some German.

(1) POHL considers KOENIG industrious and well-balanced, as well as conscientious. He does not drink or gamble.

(2) It is planned that KOENIG will report on new plane types and on information gained from his work as a test pilot.

e. Juergen NEBEL also joined the Communist Party to protect his position. He speaks Czech, English, and some German.

(1) POHL considers him honest but frivolous, a playboy type who is fond of drinking and women. He promised to work for POHL but has not yet delivered any reports.

(2) It is expected that NEBEL will deliver Air OR.

f. Josef STEINER, who joined the Communist Party for the same reason as is alleged for the persons cited above, works on a steamship plying between Prague and Pirna, Saxony.

(1) He is the uncle (brother of the mother) of POHL, who terms him honest, open, hard-working, and materialistic. He promised to work for POHL in May 1949.

(2) It is anticipated that STEINER will work as a courier between the CSR and the Soviet Zone of Germany.

h. GV C has reported the following concerning training, control, and the reporting channel for this operation:

a. It is intended to give POHL two weeks of training starting 20 February 1951. Later POHL will give his agents on-the-spot training.

b. POHL, who is directed by V-12041, knows only V-12041. The location of POHL's residence makes observation at all times feasible. His primary motivation seems to be a passionate interest in IS work and a certain love of adventure, although a need for money also plays a part in his motivation. Finally, he opposes the present regime in the CSR because his father spent four years in prison there.

c. MARTIN is motivated by his family tie to POHL and political sympathy for the West. He knows only POHL. His location makes control impossible at this time.

SECRET

SECRET

-4-

d. NEBEL has known POHL since 1936 and was, for a long time, a good friend of POHL's sister. He promised to cooperate because his political sympathies lie decidedly with the West and because he needs much money. Control is not presently possible.

e. STEINER is motivated by pro-Western sentiments and a need of funds. Control is not now possible. The details of STEINER's courier duties have not yet been worked out completely.

f. POHL knows only that he works for an American organization.

5. A report on anticipated costs will be made later.

6. This operation has no ties to any other operations, plans, or projects.

7. Position of GV C:

a. The initial background check on POHL, conducted between 18 and 23 December 1950, created a favorable impression. The check will be continued in order to check further details about his past.

b. POHL is to be sent into the GSR via the crossing-point described in para. 1 15) a of MGL-A-4754. V-12041 visited the forester mentioned in this reference on 30 December 1950 and concluded that the crossing-point could be used.

8. In his summary, WINTER has merely emphasized the strong points in the above plan (the prior IS experience of V-12041 and POHL, the fact that the three sources in the target area have already declared their willingness to cooperate and are in a position to furnish good material, the probability that the courier route STEINER can be used after letter-drops have been set up, and the probable soundness of the crossing-point which POHL will use when he goes on commitment) and added that 39 supports the further development of this plan with the understanding that details not now provided will be made available.

9. Case Officer's Comments:

a. V-12041 would seem to be a genuine asset to GV C. The entry in ZIPPER's own card files which states that he was regarded as the best man in AST Dijon, the favorable opinion expressed by CIC Augsburg, and the quality of his work since November 1950 for GV C combine to strengthen this impression.

b. It is requested that CIC Augsburg be checked to determine whether that office holds a separate file on POHL, whether he was dropped for the alleged reason, and what their opinion of POHL was.

SECRET

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-5-

c. The sources seem fairly well-placed, and it is comforting to note that there are only three of them. Past experiences have demonstrated that there is a much greater prospect of a clean and sound operation if only a few sources are involved than is true if we are confronted with a large and supposedly fully developed net.

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